

Assemblyman Tom Smith elected assistant majority whip

Page 2

Black travel and tourism—where does your money go?

Page 8



CITY News

THE NEW JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION

A rekindling of the spirits

Page 6

An open letter to Santa Claus

Requests from Connie's Christmas list

Page 4

National News

by Robert N. Taylor

High school drug abuse up

The use of marijuana among 8th, 10th and 12th graders continued to increase in 1994 according to the Department of Health and Human Service's 1994 "Monitoring the Future" Survey. The survey found that among 1994's high school seniors, 30.7 percent said they had tried marijuana at least once in the past year. The survey showed increases in the daily, current, past year, and lifetime use of marijuana by 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students.

This is the third year in a row in which marijuana use has increased among eighth graders and the second year for 10th and 12th grade students. There was also a small, but significant, increase in cocaine use among 8th and 10th graders. HHS Secretary Donna Shalala said, "Too many teens are buying the deadly message that drug use is okay or trendy. We need to make sure that teens know most of their peers do not use drugs, so they can realize they are far from alone in deciding to be drug free."—WASHINGTON, DC

Why not a female as NAACP chief?

According to a Memphis *Ti-State* Defender poll, many females say it's time for the NAACP to stop practicing gender discrimination and allow a female to take the helm of the organization founded in 1909. In the survey, 87 percent of adult females and 52 percent of the males said the NAACP could regain its popularity and momentum with a "strong" female executive. In the same survey, 73 percent of all respondents said they did not see the gender gap widening among African Americans.—WASHINGTON, DC

Black conservative's talk show airs nationwide

Starting the first of 1995 *The Right Side*, a conservative-oriented talk show hosted by Armstrong Williams, a third-generation African American whose best friend is Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, will air nationwide Mondays through Fridays from 10 p.m. to midnight over the Salem Radio Network. Williams says he is in favor of free enterprise, low taxes, God, a "stiffer death penalty," and the American dream.—WASHINGTON, DC

L.A. DA seeking to introduce evidence of Simpson's wife beating

According to NNPA's Los Angeles court reporter, the District Attorney's office is trying to have evidence introduced in O.J. Simpson's trial concerning the alleged marital discord between him and his estranged, and late, wife, Nicole Brown Simpson. Los Angeles Sentinel staff writer, Dennis

(Continued on page 3)

Kwanzaa Extravaganza a huge success

by Sherry Burrus

Who could ask for anything more? A charming host, an inspirational speaker, spectacular music, wall to wall vendors, and divine cuisine. Where, you ask? Well, if you have to ask where, then you missed Plainfield's Kwanzaa Extravaganza.

Residents from near and far packed the Black United Fund Community Center Complex, formerly known as the Grant Ave. Community Center, last Saturday to attend the second annual Kwanzaa Extravaganza given by the Soul Brothers Production Company, Inc.

U.N.I.T.Y. would sum up the jam packed, educational and cultural affair and there was certainly something for everyone.

"We strive for education and self-righteousness. Soul Brothers try to enlighten people on certain things they didn't know about themselves. Whenever we produce a show we incorporate some type of motivational speaker," Dwayne Haskins, founder and director of Soul Brothers said.

Motivational was correct, as Hassan Kamaul Salim of Black Gold II, in Plainfield, who is also a professor of African-American history, kemetology, poet, playwright, actor and master of martial arts, eloquently

described the meaning of Kwanzaa and reminded the audience of their purpose.

"We are here to celebrate the beauty of ourselves. What Kameka (the founder of Kwanzaa) wanted to do was to seek out the spirit of the best of Africa for us to understand the best of our culture and for us to come together in the form of cultural unity. We have survived. We have lived through the world's most notorious holocaust. We have lost millions of people and yet we have survived. We must now take our struggle to the next level, begin to flourish and go beyond our ancestors who built the pyramid. Black people have never lost their creativity. We have never stopped being dynamic. It's just that over the last couple of hundred years our creativity has been used, but not in our best interest."

Salim continued "Kwanzaa is one of the best ways to recapture that creativity. Kwanzaa is not just December 26 through January 1. Kwanzaa is the cultural, spiritual celebration of our existence, the original people of this planet."

Children were entertained with a story telling session and Salim ended his story by saying that we must retain creative story telling back to our youth.

Salim explained that one of black men years ago in Africa stood in their

communities and guarded their loved ones. He went on to say that although, we're still standing out there (referring to youth hanging on corners) we have lost our purpose.

"We have youth hanging out on the corner but (the youth) don't know why. They've forgotten their purpose. It is our job to find a new mission. If they want to be on the corner let them return to their original mission," Salim stated.

Salim's speech left the audience ready to continue their cultural journey and Olani, a cultural, ethnic and spiritual group, who performed four songs entitled *Unity, Olani, Black Enough and Creative In Artitude*, helped them do just that. Their unique sound incorporates oldies and contemporary music.

The music continued with four singing sensations, whose name says it all, Simply Precious. Their sound is harmonious as the lead songstress, Shelela, a 10 year old four octave range song bird, simply blew the audience away. The other members of the quartet are Sheline, 18, Starr, 16, and Latashia, 14.

There was never a dull moment. At inter-



Mylo Thompson (l) and Hassan Salim, participated in the Kwanzaa celebration at the Black United Fund Community Center.

mission everyone mixed and mingled as they shopped at the sixteen vendor booths and ate everything from banana pudding to collard greens, cabbage, potato salad, curried chicken and rice and a variety of other mouth watering treats.

Members of the community were then presented with Uplifting Community and Investment awards for their dedication and commitment to the community. Plainfield's non-profit organization Inani, who's named after one of the seven principles of Kwanzaa, was awarded the Investment Award for their dedication to the youth through giving out various scholarships in the name of the late Rev. Everett C. Lattimore, former pastor of Rose of Sharon Church of Plainfield. Pat Holmes, a spokesperson for the group ac-

(Continued on page 3)

Blacks react to firing of Dr. Joycelyn Elders

by William Reed

Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders' firing by President Clinton has placed her in the same sympathy league as the killing of Jeffrey Dahmer, few have any regrets to her, or his departure.

President Clinton fired Dr. Elders after the White House learned of her comments suggesting that masturbation is "part of something that perhaps should be taught" in schools. The president said he asked for her resignation because of "A matter of differences." Dr. Elders reported from Little Rock, that she "has no regrets" over her firing, or the misinterpretation of her comments while Surgeon General. Saying she was surprised over the way her remarks were accepted, Elders responded that, "People have taken a lot of things I've said in a most unusual way."

Many in the black community say she was fired by the president for doing what he had advertised she would do when he brought her to Washington. The initial background from Arkansas on Dr. Elders had been that she was outspoken and a real shaker-up of establishments and a shaker of the neck and conventional.

In her two years in the nation's top physician's job, she was characterized by provocation of various segments of the population and statements that the White House could not politically justify. During her tenure, Elders



Dr. Joycelyn Elders, former U.S. Surgeon General.

was dismissive of educators and parents who questioned the disputation of condoms in school. Her view on the legalization of drugs was not popular in the administration, and her last remark, agreeing with a questioner at a forum in the United Nations on the possible merit in the age of AIDS of teaching school children about masturbation was, in the words of White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, "just one too many."

"She was just ahead of her time," stated Frances Murphy, publisher of the *Washington Afro-American* newspaper and a frequent visitor at the White House. "Many of her comments just were not politically acceptable," says Ms. Murphy.

"I would not like anyone teaching my kids how to masturbate," commented Vernell McKnight, operator of Quality Day Care, a Silver Spring Maryland infant care center. "I liked her and she spoke at my church, but her statements on young children's sexuality are not acceptable to me," stated McKnight.

Elders has 26 years as a professor of pediatrics at the University of Arkansas. Norm Nickens, chairman of the board of the National Minority AIDS Council said, "Her unceremonious dismissal may be an early warning sign about the future of U.S. Public Health policy, particularly as it affects the sexual well-being of American citizens."

But, most black leaders, such as outgoing chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, Kweisi Mfume, an 1994 making a furor over the firing, accepting her dismissal as a "part of the Washington political process." While I have admitted much of her work and efforts for America's health policies, she does serve at the pleasure of the President," Mfume said.

Joseph Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said Elders "is among the first (mid-term) post-election casualties in the struggle between visionary

(Continued on page 3)

Clergy demands Cardinale ouster

by Paul Joseph

The United Clergy of the Oranges joined with Civil Rights leaders in calling for the Republican Senate Majority to remove Sen. Gerald Cardinale (R-Bergen) as head of the Senate Commerce Committee, after he called into question the tax exempt status of black churches in what the clergy describes as an attempt to seek revenge against ministers who endorsed Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.) in the November elections.

Cardinale came under fire by the black clergy after a November 3 "super confidential memo" written by his legislative aide, Monica Lanza, to the office of Legislative Service quoted him saying why "certain liberal-leaning church groups" seem to be at risk in losing their tax exempt status while "religious right" groups such as the Christian Coalition faced tighter restrictions.

"I wouldn't be above firing against the black ministers in New Jersey who are endorsing Lautenberg. But I want to be on safe ground." Cardinale wrote as he asked the Senate Republican staff to investigate possible good standards.

Cardinale had since apologized for the wording of the memo and said that he was referring to all religious leaders. But the ministers questioned his sincerity after he appeared on the WABC-AM radio's Bob Grant Show and said that (the memo) was right on target. Bob Grant recently had been targeted by the group

for making derogatory and racist comments about African Americans.

During a press conference at East Orange's Park Avenue Christian Church last Wednesday, Reverend Gerald Jackson, political action chairman of the United Clergy of the Oranges, said the "memo" was not written out of a genuine concern about tax exempt restrictions for churches and non-profit organizations but as a result of this year's senate contest in which the black clergy played a significant role.

"The memo is meant to intimidate and threaten black clergy about their future involvement," Jackson stated, adding, "(the plan) is to get some of us to back off and not be outspoken."

Walter L. Fields, Jr., political action director of the Garden State branch of the National Organization for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), labeled the memo "a thinly veiled attempt to de-politicize African-American leadership" and called Cardinale's actions "racist," "a disgrace" and "an embarrassment" to state residents.

"Senator Cardinale's actions reflect an outright hatred for the African-American community," Fields stated. "It is quite obvious that Sen. Cardinale has little regard for black people and will go to no end to demonstrate his disdain."

Fields said this was the second time the senator targeted the black community. He

(Continued on page 8)

Smith to Whitman:denounce Cardinale

TRENTON—Assembly Deputy Minority Leader Bob Smith said Governor Whitman has a unique opportunity to lead by example in the fight against racial intolerance. The Assemblyman has called for the governor to immediately denounce Senator Gerald Cardinale's attempt to silence and punish black ministers.

Smith (D-Middlesex, Union, Somerset) said Whitman should be both forceful and direct in addressing Cardinale's exploratory political vendetta against the ministers, especially since she recently unveiled her "Many Faces—One Family" initiative.

"As the state's Republican leader, the least Governor Whitman can do is reprimand Senator Cardinale for issuing a memoran-

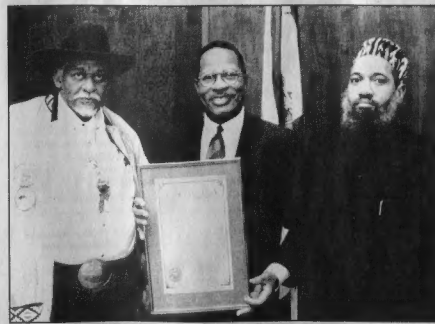
dum that is both racially and politically loaded," said Smith.

"Mr. Cardinale's memo speaks for itself. It targets black ministers and black ministers only."

Smith charged that Whitman has an obligation to speak out on the issue.

"Hopefully she will not try to play both sides of the fence as she is now attempting to do with right-wing radio personality Bob Grant. Hopefully Governor Whitman will be firm on this latest incident. Hopefully she won't waffle or equivocate."

"Hopefully she will know there is a difference between reading a speech about inclusion and leading by example."



NEWARK—Mayor Sharpe James presents a proclamation for "Salute to Buffalo Soldiers Day" on Friday, November 18 in recognition of African-American cowboys of the Old West. (l-r) Tex Womble, black cowboy, Mayor James ad Salim Muhammad, director of Perleco Associates, the agency that handles PR for the Buffalo Soldiers.

Community Calendar

ONGOING...

EAST ORANGE—The East Orange YMCA is conducting Adult Swim Lessons on Tuesdays from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. For more info call 201-673-5588.

MONTH OF DECEMBER

JERSEY CITY—The Jersey City Public Library will offer a series of Christmas films. For more info call 201-547-4546.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22
PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Post Office will extend hours at the main office at 201 Watching Avenue from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sundays. For more info call 908-226-5258.

THRU DECEMBER 24
The Arthritis Foundation will have a Holiday Gift Wrap at the Garden State Plaza Mall and Willowbrook Mall. For more info call 201-986-0100.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28
JERSEY CITY—The Media Arts Department of the Jersey City Public Library will show films for their December theme "Dreaming of a White Christmas" at the Five Corners Branch Library at 1 p.m. For more info call 201-547-4546.

NEWARK—The New Jersey Historical Society will have a Kwanzaa Family Celebration from noon to 4 p.m. For info call 201-483-3939.

EATONTOWN—Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics) is the focus of a Networking Awards Dinner for progressive minorities sponsored by G.S.M. productions at Lane Hall at 6 p.m. For ticket info call 908-259-8144.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30
JERSEY CITY—CAB and Miller Branch Library host a Kwanzaa Festival with a feast, music and performances at 7:30 p.m. For more info 201-547-4551.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
Brunswick—100 Black Men of New Jersey is sponsoring their annual New Years Eve Scholarship at the New Brunswick Hilton. For more info call 1-800-HL-TONS.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5
JERSEY CITY—Hudson County Community College is offering a one-day class from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The GED Practice Test; students are able

to take practice GED exams to see if they are ready for the actual exam. For more info call 201-714-2107.

JANUARY 5-FEBRUARY 23
JERSEY CITY—How to Achieve Discipline: A New Workshop for Parents and Educators will take place at Hudson County Community College. For more info call 201-714-2107.

THRU JANUARY 6
SUMMIT—There will be an exhibition of "Paintings from New Jersey Collections" at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts. For more info call 908-273-9121.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
NEWARK—There will be a tribute to Martin Luther King featuring guest speaker Lawrence Hamm at the Newark Public Library at 2 p.m. For more info call 201-643-7711.

THRU JANUARY 16
CRANFORD—Union County College will conduct three Admissions Workshops at its campuses in Cranford, Elizabeth and Plainfield. For more info call 908-709-7516.

THRU JANUARY 19
JERSEY CITY—Hudson County Community College's Continuing Education Department is offering several computer classes this fall. For more info call 201-714-2107.

THRU JANUARY 23
MANHATTAN—The Museum of the City of New York is featuring a special exhibition entitled "A New York Holiday" Admission is free. For more info call 212-534-1672.

THRU FEBRUARY 26
EWING TOWNSHIP—Trenton State College will be hosting a major African-American art exhibition entitled "Fine Within Ourselves: African-American Art from the Museum's Collection." For more info call 609-771-2366.

THRU MARCH 5
MANHATTAN—"Black Male: Representations of Masculinity in Contemporary American Art" will be appearing at the Whitney Museum of American Art. For information on times of showing, call 212-570-3533.

Assemblyman Tom Smith elected assistant majority whip



Assemblyman Tom Smith

ASBURY PARK—Monmouth County Assemblyman Tom Smith was elected by his peers in the Assembly Republican Caucus to serve as the Assistant Majority Whip.

"I am honored to be chosen by my colleagues to join the Assembly's leadership and lend a hand in shaping the policy of this House," Smith said.



Greg Nelson, (l), United Way campaign coordinator at Hoechst Celanese, RLMT, in Summit, receives a recognition award from Charles Counts, United Way of Union County campaign director. The total amount raised for the 1994 campaign was \$83,233.88, including the corporate matching contribution.

As Assistant Whip, Smith will be monitoring the progress of votes on legislation before the caucus and Assembly. He will also work closely with the Assembly leadership in crafting House policy.

Smith joined the Assembly in 1992, after a long career of public service in his longtime home town of Asbury Park.

Assemblyman Smith has served as a councilman and as Mayor of Asbury Park, and spent 38 years there as a city policeman, including 11 years as chief of police.

Smith also served in the U.S. Army and participated in combat at Normandy, Northern France, the Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe.

The Assemblyman is a graduate of Asbury Park High School and Howard University. He is a past president of the Asbury Park Kiwanis Club, and has served on the Salvation Army Advisory Board since 1985.



Checking out some of the toys gathered for disadvantaged children through the Toys for Tots drive now under way at participating Exxon retail locations are, (l) Island manager Mike Campbell of Irvington and owner Peter Riley. Anyone wishing to donate new, unwrapped toys for the drive can do so at a participating Exxon retailer. The toys, which will be turned over to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, will be distributed to needy children throughout the area.



The employees of the Newark Municipal Court, under the direction of Robert Strand, court a joenter, back row recently held a holiday food drive for the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. Photo: William Flumme

Send Community Calendar events to City News,
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National News

by Robert N. Taylor

(Continued from page 1)

Schaltzman, reports "At issue is a October 1993 '911' tape in which Simpson is heard screaming at Nicole about his witnessing her [in a compromising position] with a male whom Simpson identifies as one of the owners of the Mezzaluna Restaurant, in her living room while the Simpson children were upstairs in the house.—LOS ANGELES, CA

'Godfather of Soul' arrested for beating his wife

James Brown was arrested in Alameda County, South Carolina for beating his wife, Adrienne, the 65-year-old entertainer was released after posting a \$279.25 bond. Adrienne Brown sustained a cut lip after being knocked to the floor and banging into a chair. Police said the wife-beating charge is a misdemeanor, to be tried in a magistrate court and has a penalty of no more than \$200 fine, six court costs, or 30 days in jail. Mr. Brown was on probation after serving 28 months of a six-year sentence in 1988 that resulted from a high-speed chase through Georgia and South Carolina that ended with police shooting out the tires of his truck.—

SOUTH CAROLINA

Nation's oldest black press club celebrates 50 years

TV talk show host, Les Brown, gave the address and black media leaders gave awards to outstanding African Americans recently in Wash-

ington, DC, when the Capital Press Club celebrated its 50th Anniversary. Among the awardees were: Robert L. Johnson, founder and president of Black Entertainment Television; Plurilla Marshall, chairman of the National Black Media Coalition; Cathy Hughes, president and owner of six East Coast radio stations; and Frances Murphy, publisher of the Washington Afro-American newspaper. The group, which was founded in 1944 by a group of black newspaper men and government information officers who were denied admission to the National Press Club, awarded \$7,000 in scholarships to communications students.—

WASHINGTON, DC

Espy probe widens to include Clintons

The investigation into the dealings of Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy has broadened to include the relationship between Tyson Foods Inc. and President and Mrs. Clinton. Special prosecutor Donald Smeltz has hired 35 prosecutors, FBI agents and other investigators, to look into the nature of the Tyson-Clinton connection. Espy, who departs his office at the end of 1994, first came under investigation on charges that he violated U.S. laws by accepting tickets for travel and sporting events from Tyson, which is regulated by his department. Subpoenas issued by Smeltz and the scope of his interviews with Tyson officials, and others, indicate he is trying to compile a wide-ranging profile of the company's dealings with the federal government.—

WASHINGTON, DC

African-American leadership reception to be held at ECC

NEWARK—Ambassadors from African and other nations will join officials in Newark for the city's first AA leadership and Ambassador's networking and cultural exchange reception.

The event will be held on Thursday, December 22, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., at the Essex County College Gymnasium, W. Market and MLK Blvd. Immediately following the

program there will be an open Kwanzaa celebration, featuring guest speaker Dr. Maulana Karenga, the founder of Kwanzaa and the Nguzo Saba observation.

Tickets for the Kwanzaa celebration at 6 p.m. can be purchased at the Newark Symphony Hall Box Office. For more information call 201-643-8009 or 733-6427.

Black Churches and chicken buckets

WASHINGTON, DC—On Friday, December 9, Jesse Jackson and Ralph Reed (Ex. Dir., Christian Coalition) appeared on CNN-TV's Larry King Live to discuss Jackson's remarks (reported in last week's JaxFax) linking—in a spiritual and ideological way, not in a chronological or organizational sense—the religious right in this country, and German fascism and apartheid in the U.S. South. The following exchange took place at the end of the program.

Caller: I believe America is moving towards a fascist state.
King: What's the question?

Caller: I'm going to tell you, (laughs). If the Christian Coalition is not a partisan movement, and I believe it is, I would like to see it confront racism on every issue. And I would like a response to that because I don't think little programs will do it. I think there has to be direct confrontation of Americans everywhere.

King: Do you? Should you denounce racism more openly than you do on a more regular basis?

Reed: I think we'll take every opportunity to do that and...

King: It is the curse of America

isn't it? It's our blackest mark, no pun intended.

Reed: It has certainly been one of the greatest tragedies and one of the most painful parts of our history. But let me tell you something Larry, I don't think, as I said, you should visit the sins of the father on the sons and daughters. We distributed bilingual and trilingual voter guides in South Central Los Angeles the week before this last election.

King: Why don't you two get together?

Reed: We work with black

churches.

Jackson: But when you visit those churches and then say in your statement today, that you've seen me in churches passing chicken buckets through pews to take up money, first you have not seen that. And that's a racist stereotype. And about that you should express... you should admit that it's inaccurate, and you should know that it is, indeed, a racist stereotype.

Reed: It isn't at all. And, in fact, I said in the same statement, if you would quote the whole thing, that I've never questioned your right to be politically involved. I've never questioned the right of the African-American church to be involved. Indeed during this entire period, this dark period of racism, the African-American church is what kept the black community alive.

Jackson: But, but....
Reed: What I don't like is you questioning my right to...

Jackson: But you said you saw me passing chicken buckets through pews in black churches. You've never seen that. Have you?

Reed: You have collected.

Jackson: Have you ever seen a chicken bucket in a black church?

Reed: Uh... I have seen buckets passed in the pews...

Jackson: Have you seen a chicken bucket in a black church?

Reed: What I said was that you have endorsed candidates, you have campaigned in churches, and I have never questioned your right to be involved.

Jackson: You are not answering my question. You were quoted saying...

King: It's a racist statement.

Jackson: It's a racist stereotype, chicken and black churches. You have never seen me with a chicken bucket in a black church.

Reed: If he was offended I certainly did not mean to offend him, but I would like him to apologize...

Jackson: Not just an offense. It was inaccurate.

King: We have not heard the last. We will have both these gentlemen back. It is important that they dialogue. Thanks for joining us. Have a great weekend. Good night.

(Transcribed by Gwen Buttrum)

Kwanzaa

(Continued from page 1)

cepted the award on Imani's behalf.

Holmes was then presented with the Uplifting Community Award for her dedication to Plainfield. Holmes accepted the award teary eyed and surprisingly at a lost for words.

"I'm truly blessed. My heart is just filled. Thank you so much."

Other performers at the Kwanzaa Extravaganza were Valerie Adams, whose rendition of *Silent Night* was just heavenly. Adam's band is formerly known as B.T. Express.

Soul Brothers, founded in 1991 by Dwayne Haskins, began as a private organization whose members sought to bring about a social change.

Blacks react to firing

(Continued from page 1)

purpose and political expediency."

As head of the Arkansas Health Department when President Clinton was governor, she stepped on many toes and made plenty of enemies before controversial, confrontational and something of a crusader. But, Clinton chose her for Surgeon General even though her strongly worded statements on public health issues had caused him trouble. He once said of her, "Now I know how Abraham Lincoln felt when he met Harriet Beecher Stowe. He said, 'This is the little lady who started the great war.'"

Speaking one's mind, however, is what surgeons general are supposed to do, said Harvey Fineberg, dean of the Harvard School of Public Health. The position has little real power to affect

health policy. "You're a general with no troops," Fineberg said. "What you can affect is through model, exhortation and leadership. It is the closest thing we have to a conscience for the health of the nation."

Elders had said that her aim was to make "Every child born in America a planned and wanted child." She confronted the important problem of teenage pregnancy, expressed determination to stop the spread of AIDS among young people. Elders was a frequent speaker for black groups and made the black National Medical Association one of her first forums for speaking out against the violence that has reached epidemic proportions among young African Americans.

While most blacks accept the fact that administration appointees serve at the pleasure of the president and Clinton

has appointed more blacks to his cabinet than any other president, many African-American leaders point out that President Clinton has had no qualms about pushing these black appointees out. Dr. Elders now joins Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy in being sacked by Clinton, both of whom will serve until the end of 1994. Initial polling shows that African Americans, who have been the most solid of Clinton's supporters, are miffed about the firings.

Ms. Murphy, a member of Delta Sigma Theta sorority, says she doesn't feel Elders will have any problems with income and speaking opportunities for a while. Elders, also a Delta, has speaking engagements scheduled with the national black women's group for months to come.

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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Happy Holidays

As we reflect on the meaning of Christmas and remember our blessings this year, we want to wish our readers a happy holiday. We invite you all to take pause, enjoy the holidays, and think about how we can all help to better our communities by giving and sharing the spirit of the season.

We hope that in the upcoming year, we will take time to think about how we can collectively work to bring jobs, economic and educational opportunities and safety to our neighborhoods. We hope in this year that African Americans will begin taking responsibility for our youth and their future. We hope in this year that African Americans realize that there is no black knight coming to save the race but many leaders in various areas who can help the progress of our communities.

Hope is the key word for the new year. Rediscovering our strength and building on our endurance can make the new year a true turning point in all our lives, particularly African American youth who deserve better.

The Pastor's Word

Newark citizens should not pay legal fees of mayor and council

Newark Municipal Council this week will vote on an ordinance that would approve use of city funds to pay legal fees for the mayor and members of city council during the investigation currently underway by the US Attorney General's office. Neither the mayor nor members of the city council have been indicted nor found guilty of anything. They have only been subpoenaed, required to turn over all documents and pertinent information demanded by the federal government in its ongoing corruption probe. Some members of the council contend that they need legal representation when they sit down to answer questions from federal authorities. Not to do so would place them in jeopardy. Further, they claim the ongoing investigation involves actions they took on behalf of the city, therefore the city should provide legal representation for them.

Both of these arguments are flawed. First the Council is asking the city to do for them what is due for nobody else. Their own corporation counsel has advised them of the same. What should make them the exception from everybody else. There is a provision already in place for members of council who are indicted but acquitted to be reimbursed for local expenses. Second, council members claim they are being investigated for actions they took on behalf of the city are yet to be determined. It can certainly be argued that if all the actions were on behalf of the city, this widespread investigation would not be going on, at least not as widely as it currently is.

Letter to the editor

Language a handicap?

Dear Editor:

In recent months, I've read articles written by individuals who oppose the ideology of bilingualism as an integral part of our educational system. They argue that the present state of bilingual education is ineffective. They oppose spending the money on programs, which they claim, perpetuates English illiteracy. While it is true that acquiring and mastering the English language is necessary for all immigrants of this country, it cannot be advocated that this should occur as we simultaneously strip the individuals of their culture and native

language.

I am a bilingual teacher in Elizabeth, New Jersey and I strongly believe that it is no longer enough to throw an immigrant child into a classroom and say "sink or swim." Many will say that there are examples of those who were put through such a process and managed to achieve. That's just it, they "managed."

Does that mean that we should just see who survives and who doesn't? We are a much more complex society than we were even 10 years ago. Many children do not achieve. They become discouraged

by what the society labels as a handicap. How can the knowledge of our other language be perceived as a handicap? Isn't that a little backward? It is more educational to know more than to know less.

To gain a language is to gain a world. In the same light, to lose a language is to lose a world. The world is becoming more and more interdependent. I fail to see the reasoning behind the notion that the immigrant should discontinue the cultivation of the language they already possess in order to acquire a language of which they have no knowledge.

Our schools are institutions of learning, not cloning. If we desire a population of monolingual, monocultural individuals, let us not then pride ourselves over the strength of the United States when that very strength stems from its richness of diversity.

I write this letter in support of a bill which will greatly aid in our endeavor to better educate our immigrant, non-English-speaking children. Bill #A2268 will allow district flexibility in establishing programs that will continue to ensure quality and equitable educational opportunities for all children. It provides funding commensurate with the services offered rather than a set amount of funding regardless of the programs provided.

This means that if a district desires funding, it will have to implement an effective bilingual/ESL program. This way, those who oppose bilingual education may feel more assured that their money is being appropriately corrected and the children can receive the quality education they so deserve.

Schiller J. Ambrose
Elizabeth

As I See It...

An open letter to Santa Claus

by Connie Woodruff

Dear Santa:

This has been such a rough year for politicians in New Jersey and especially in Newark and Essex County. I hope you will give those who have been naughty and nice what they deserve for Christmas.

Of course for some of our friends Christmas came early. The Newark City Council received raises in their first order of business on July 1, the day they were sworn into office. Later, seven of them got new cars; two members held off until they could get the make they wanted and for at least one, a station wagon was the preferred vehicle.

There were also other pre-Christmas goodies like staffs to do the good work, trips in and out of the country and the endless fund-raisers along with the conventions, seminars and professional get-togethers that had nothing to do with Newark city government.

But forget all that Santa. Make life easier for Messrs. Bradley, Rice, Branch, Martinez, Quintana, Carrino, Tucker, Harris and Ms. Crump.

There is an absolute need for welfare reform. But, the same group of white Anglo-Saxon males who designed their system that has fostered unhealthy dependencies and undesirable behaviors, are going to "reform" the very mess they created. In all of the public hype, rhetoric and grandstanding which is currently taking place, we should not forget that the people receiving welfare benefits who are being vilified by the likes of Newt Gingrich & Co. didn't set up or establish the way the welfare system is organized and administered.

The rules and laws established were written and adopted by predominantly white men. They are the ones who sought to criminalize fathers being in their homes and taking part in their families' lives.

The criticisms leveled at recipients for demonstrating behaviors and poor work ethics are very questionable. These criticisms come from the very people who came up with a system whose objectives were to produce the outcomes we see today. It's the height of hypocrisy, cynicism and arrogance for these white men to posture, protest and lie about how they are going to bring about needed changes in the failed welfare system they designed and created.

The punitive measures being proposed to address issues that would reform the welfare system in a positive way. The focus isn't on empowering people to improve their lives and becoming productive citizens. It's on punishment—predominantly aimed at women and children. Very typical for the Anglo men who have historically utilized chauvinism as one of their main whipping tools in their global pursuit for domination and control.

Proposals to put children in orphanages (Newt's visions are appar-

Make life easier for them and Mayor James by calling off the Feds and those annoying requests for names of former and present employees, council action, records of contracts and God knows what else.

Some of his friends have suggested that a nice gold-plated muzzle would be an appropriate gift to help Mayor James keep his foot out of his mouth, if you know what I mean.

The women in Newark desperately want Councilwoman Mildred Crump to survive her first year in office. She's a ripe candidate for the old book you've given other politicians about *Stop, Look and Listen Before You Leap into the Murky Waters of Political Intrigue*. That will be a great stocking stuffer this year.

And how about a set of boxing gloves for East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper and his chief protagonist, Council President Yvonne Glover. They've been fighting so much this year both suffer from a bad case of nose knuckling.

Bless New Yorkers Calvin and Audrey West with smooth sailing as they celebrate another honeymoon on a Caribbean-bound cruise ship.

Congressman Donald Payne would appreciate some tips on how to keep the House Republican majority from snatching away the funding for the Congressional Black Caucus.

Irvington Mayor Sam Bost would like a week without the problems of running city government. She's had nothing but one crisis after another since July and has decided not to run for re-election as Freeholder president. In stepping down Bost has endorsed Joe DiVincenzo, a Freeholder from Nutley as her successor.

But, dear Santa, you may have to play Solomon in deciding who has been naughty or nice among the Essex County Freeholders, because Johnnie Jones of Newark will also see the board presidency.

Both these men allegedly bring two strong Newark political "leaders" to office with them. Joe Di's "godfather" is Steve Aduabo, the North Ward political pugilist and Mayor or Sharpe James has mentored young Mr. Jones from his political infancy. Voters suspect that in either case it's a two-for-one deal.

Newark schools superintendent Eugene Campbell and his support-

ers; especially the board of education would be delighted to find a reprieve from the proposed State Board of Education take over of the schools.

Meantime, Board President Evelyn Williams is trying to get away from it all. She's winter vacationing in Ghana with a group of other globe-trotters from Newark including Councilman Donald Tucker and wife, Cleo, public relations consultant, Harold Edwards and semi-retired Newark policeman Jim Nance.

By the way, Assemblyman Willie Brown is not happy over the prospect of losing his job as chief of staff to the Essex County executive. It's a safe bet that Executive-elect Jim Treffinger, a Republican, will bring his own man or woman into office with him. So Willie would like nothing better than another job with equal pay, perks and power. Is your Christmas magic strong enough to turn the scowl on Willie's face to a smile?

And Santa, if you find time is running out and the big gifts are hard to come by, please let me know. Our political friends to remind them, "Oh, what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive." Hopefully they will get the message.

'Welfare reform'-punishment for poor women and children

by Sharon Khadijah Vincent

There is an absolute need for welfare reform. But, the same group of white Anglo-Saxon males who designed their system that has fostered unhealthy dependencies and undesirable behaviors, are going to "reform" the very mess they created. In all of the public hype, rhetoric and grandstanding which is currently taking place, we should not forget that the people receiving welfare benefits who are being vilified by the likes of Newt Gingrich & Co. didn't set up or establish the way the welfare system is organized and administered.

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Proposals to put children in orphanages (Newt's visions are appar-

ently based on a make-believe 1930 Hollywood movie so we can see how deep rooted in reality he is) to punish young women who are pregnant and may already lack the family support and counsel needed to help them deal with the responsibilities of motherhood, to deny support to children (who don't ask to be born) and condemn them to a life of poverty and misery, aren't going to produce a system that will benefit society at large. We'll only have an increase in crime, lawlessness, irresponsible and socially deviant behavior.

Welfare reform plans that do not include education, job training, parenting skills, etc. will not produce outcomes that benefit people and help them get off the welfare rolls.

Reforms should include stipulations and mandates that require parental involvement and participation; enrollment in trade, vocational and training schools or programs that assist recipients in finding meaningful and productive jobs so they can

work and support themselves; voter education that includes required individuals to register and to vote; as well as other civic responsibilities. Measures such as these will help with achieving long term positive results. It's imperative in the upcoming debate and struggle for conservative and right wing forces that would further punish and criminalize poverty as well as accelerate us faster into a fascist society be opposed. We need to demand that women, children and oppressed nationalities the scapegoats for all of the ills, as many now want to do.

If people want real welfare reform, don't look for it to come from the hands of some of the very same culprits and their predecessors that instituted the current mess we now have.

We must speak up loud and clear in order to prevent disastrous results from occurring at the hands of conservatives and right wing fanatics.

The real costs of child poverty

by Mariann Wright Edelman

"Roaches, rats, mosquitoes, fleas, disease, chemicals," is how one nine-year-old boy described the daily realities of his life in a poor Mississippi town to a reporter.

"You go on all that about where you live? How do you feel about that?" the reporter

"Terrible," said the boy. "Makes me feel like killing myself." Every 85 seconds in America, a black baby is born into poverty. About one percent of Americans each year, while we skip shamelessly on critical vitamins for children and families.

For too long we have let political leaders define our priorities. We must demand that elected officials put children and their families first. It will be in 1995 when congress debates reform of the nation's welfare system. No less than the future of millions of black and brown and white children will be at stake in this debate.

But we also need to be leaders in our own homes and our communities. If we don't put children first, no one

else will commit in your own way to work to see that no child is left behind. Write letters to your Representatives and Senators demanding that they put children's needs first on our national agendas. Take a portion of your time, talent, and money for our children. Become a Big Brother, Big Sister, or foster parent. If you are too busy to mentor or tutor, send a needy child to camp, pay a college student to tutor or provide a summer job for a teenager. Make a difference in the life of at least one child. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was right when he said anybody can serve—with or without education and with or without money. Please serve children in any way you can.

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else will commit in your own way to work to see that no child is left behind. Write letters to your Representatives and Senators demanding that they put children's needs first on our national agendas. Take a portion of your time, talent, and money for our children. Become a Big Brother, Big Sister, or foster parent. If you are too busy to mentor or tutor, send a needy child to camp, pay a college student to tutor or provide a summer job for a teenager. Make a difference in the life of at least one child. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was right when he said anybody can serve—with or without education and with or without money. Please serve children in any way you can.

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Kids Kalendar**ONGOING**

NEWARK—A Saturday Youth program began at Essex County College offering courses in computer graphics, tennis, reading, writing, math, etiquette, public speaking, storytelling, youth as entrepreneurs, jazz, dance, juggling and piano. To register call 201-877-3416. For more information or a brochure call 201-877-3436.

NOW THRU JAN. 8

NEW YORK—There will be 115 performances given by "Grandma" NY's favorite senior citizen clown at The Big Apple Circus, 35 W. 59th St. For more info, call 212-268-2500.

DECEMBER 24

MANHATTAN—The Children's Museum of the Arts will have a Bread Workshop at 12 p.m. For more info, call 212-274-1776.

DECEMBER 26

ENGLEWOOD—"Peter Pan" will be staged at the John Harms Center for the Arts at 11 a.m. For more information call 201-567-3900.

DECEMBER 31

NEW YORK—Create your own day mask at the Children's Museum of the Arts from noon to 3 p.m. For more info, call 212-274-0956.

Send Kids Kalendar**events to:****City News,****P.O. BOX 1774,****PLAINFIELD, NJ 07060****Senior Volunteer Program gives special gift to Newark kids**

NEWARK—Children at the South 17th Street School in Newark recently received hats handmade by members of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, RSVP of Essex County. Pictured left to right are: Joseph Ellis, Lawrence Goode, Carol Lett, Assistant Director of RSVP, Ashley Priest, and Sedricka McClain.

Theatre tickets available through girl scouts

WESTFIELD—Just in time for holiday gift-giving and stocking stuffers, tickets are now available for The Little Theatre of the Deaf's performance of "The Story Bag" sponsored by Washington Rock Girl Scout Council.

The public is invited to attend the January 14 performance by the nationally acclaimed Little Theatre of the Deaf at the Hillside Avenue School in Cranford. Both a 1:00 p.m. and a 2:30 p.m. show will be offered. For ticket and further information call the council service center at 908-232-3236.

In addition the Delaware-Raritan Girl Scout Council sponsored a Toy Drive conducted by hundreds of girl scouts, parents, adult volunteers and

community members.

The girls will go towards the children at some local agencies in Central New Jersey.



Shown here are (l-r) Kathleen Fuller and Jennifer Cook.

Essex county Urban League offers program for teens leaving foster care

NEWARK—The Urban League of Essex County has openings in its Independent Living Skills program for teens leaving DYFS foster care. The Independent Living Skills program focuses on educational enrichment, employment readiness, cultural awareness and enrichment, community service, and personal life management skills.

The objective is to prepare teens in the foster care system to successfully manage the responsibility of being productive and independent citizens. Unlike other teens, adolescents leaving the DYFS foster care system do not have the benefit of continued parental guidance as they leave high school and enter the com-

munity as young adults in college or the workforce. The program teaches the social and civic skills necessary for productive adult life and employment readiness.

Educational enrichment and employment readiness include lessons and activities to improve academic performance and employability skills. Cultural awareness enrichment offers field trips and other experiences, such as museums and cultural centers. Personal life management skills are developed through activities that teach household budgeting, health management, self-esteem building and civic awareness. The program is free. For more information or to register, call 201-624-9535.

Union county schools participate in Easter Seal Basketball Shoot-out

EAST BRUNSWICK—Students at two Union County schools have signed up to participate in the Easter Seal Society of New Jersey (ESSNJ) Basketball Shoot-Out to help their neighbors with disabilities. They join over 30 New Jersey schools currently scheduled to participate.

The ESSNJ Basketball Shoot-Out is a fun way for students to make a difference, and can be scheduled by the class at any convenient time during the school year. Under the direction of a coach of physical education instructor, students attempt to sink as many unassisted baskets as possible in three minutes. Prior to the event, shooters collect pledges for each bas-

ket scored. Top fund-raisers and shooters win tickets to a local NBA game and will be honored in a special on-court presentation during the game. Participants are also eligible for incentive prizes and may qualify for a scholarship to the Pocono International Sports Camp.

Union County schools scheduled to participate in the ESSNJ Basketball Shoot-Out are: Evergreen Elementary School (Plainfield, N.J.) and Burnet Middle School (Union, N.J.).

All proceeds from the Basketball Shoot-Out benefit ESSNJ, the state's foremost provider of services to people with disabilities.

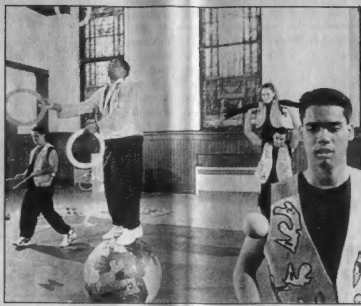
YOUTH/EDUCATION/SUCCESS**Circus troupe available for performances/workshops**

BLOOMFIELD—Bloomfield College's circus troupe, Circus Works is currently planning its 1995 season and invites school groups, community groups and others to schedule a free performance and/or workshop on or off the College campus.

The troupe is composed of six Bloomfield College students who successfully completed the College's circus arts classes, auditioned and were selected for Circus Works.

"The circus troupe engages students in experiential learning situations that promote self-discipline, self-confidence, creative problem solving and collaboration, as well as a mastery of physical skills," explains Ned Gelgar, one of the troupe directors. "In the process of learning how to balance on a rolling globe or walk on stilts, our students conquer their fear of failure in an arena that thrives on trial and error, and they become empowered to overcome challenges in other areas of learning."

Circus Works' performance/workshop session lasts approximately one hour. It includes a 20-minute performance by the troupe, followed by a workshop in juggling,



Members of Bloomfield College's Circus Works rehearse

wirewalking, stunts, balancing, and other circus skills. The workshops are designed for 15 people and appropriate for children of all ages.

"Our students shared their achievements with these youngsters and provided them with posi-

tive role models," said Fred Collins, troupe co-director. "Circus Works also has performed for homeless families living in nearby shelters."

For more information, call Lisa Farese at (201) 748-9000 ext. 343.

Chris Maumalunga tells teens to stay in school

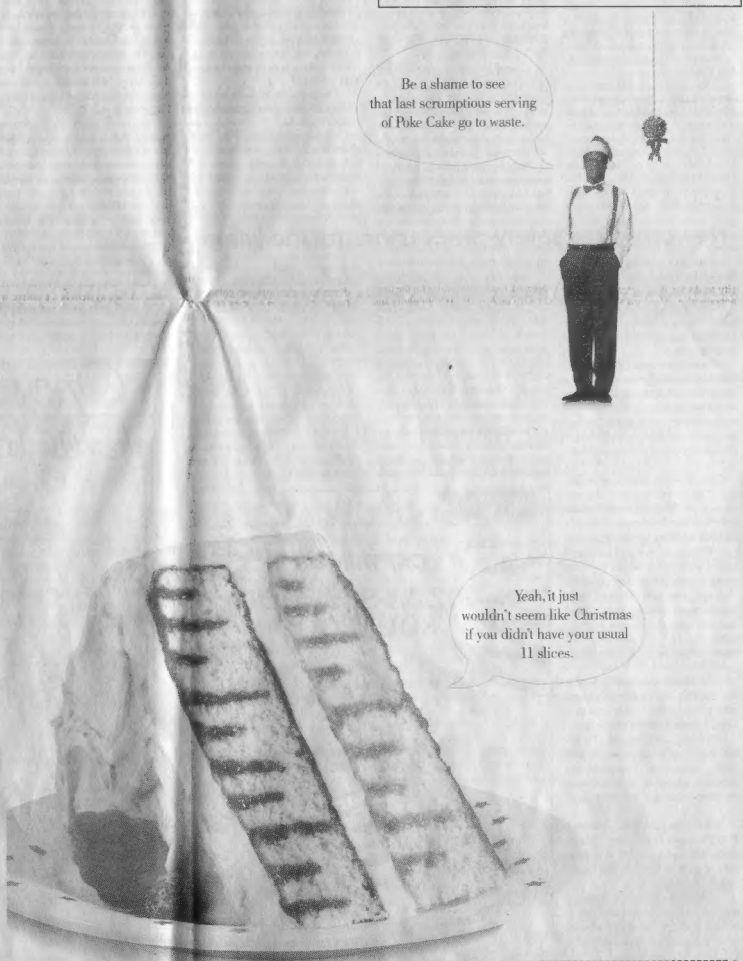
NEWARK—New York Giants rookie defensive tackle Chris Maumalunga signs autographs for students of High School Redirection in the school's auditorium in Newark. Maumalunga was one of three speakers who participated in a special "Stay in School" assembly held at the alternative high school. The school's students are Newark residents who dropped out of the city's traditional school system and voluntarily re-enrolled to complete their high school education. Enrollment information can be obtained by calling 201-733-7067 or 7414.

Happy Holidays from the staff of City News

Be a shame to see that last scrumptious serving of Poke Cake go to waste.



Yeah, it just wouldn't seem like Christmas if you didn't have your usual 11 slices.

**HOLIDAY POKE CAKE**

- 1 package (18.5 ounces) PELLERBY PLUS White Cake Mix
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1 package (4 serving size) JELL-O Brand Gelatin
- 1 package (4 serving size) JELL-O Brand Gelatin

HEAT Bake in 350°

PREPARE: Bake and cool cake mix as directed on package for 28-30 minutes. Place cake layers, top sides up, in 2 clear 9x9-inch square pans. Place cake mix with large hole at 1/2 inch intervals.

STIR: 1 cup of the boiling water into each flavor of gelatin to separate lumps. 2 minutes or until dissolved. Combine your 1/2 gallon over 1 cake layer and line gelatin in separate bowls. 2 minutes or until dissolved. Combine your 1/2 gallon over 1 cake layer and line gelatin in separate bowls. 2 minutes or until dissolved.

BPM: 1 cake pan in warm water 10 seconds, invert onto serving platter. Repeat with about 1/4 of the boiling, inverted second cake layer, carefully pour on first layer. Press top and sides of cake with remaining frosting.

REFRIGERATE: Place in cold water to set. Decorate as desired. Makes 12 servings.

Don't forget cake in refrigerator.

Note: JELL-O Sugar Free Brand Low Calorie Gelatin Dessert and Pudding Lightened Cream White Cake Mix and Vanilla Frosting. Serving size is 1/2 cup (1/2 inch).

**Make a Holiday Classic.**



<p>HOME OFFICE *249 Midtown Avenue, Midtown CO 7, NE20 Highway 34, P.O. Box 127 268 68 Hancock Avenue, P.O. Box 227 27 27 Prospect Street FREDHOLM *Highway 9 and Astoria Road HILLIDGE *1128 Liberty Avenue IRVINGTON 34 Union Avenue 1331 Springfield Avenue 1055 Shuyler Avenue</p>		<p>LONG BRANCH 169 Broadway HANCOCK Highway 36 and Valley Drive * PUNAHILL 130 Watchung Avenue * SHORT HILLS The Mall (Upper Level) * SPRINGFIELD 173 Montrose Avenue * SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS Highway 71 and Warner Avenue UNION 917 7th Shuyler Avenue *</p>
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Billboard

PLAINFIELD—Casting auditions will be held at the First Unitarian Society of Plainfield for beginners, males and females, ages teens to seventies and two experienced actresses. For more info, call 906-474-4725 days or 906-757-7787 evenings.

DECEMBER 3-31

PLAINFIELD—There will be an exhibit at the Swain Galleries entitled "Christmas Miniatures." For more details, call 906-756-1707.

DECEMBER 4-31

NEW BRUNSWICK—The Crossroads Theater Company will exhibit the work of noted artist Leroy Campbell and other events. For more info, call 906-249-5560.

DECEMBER 11-JANUARY 3

ATLANTIC CITY—"Legends in Concorde" will appear at The Grand Casino Resort. For reservations and information call 609-340-4709.

DECEMBER 17-31

NEWARK—The Newark Museum's Dryfuss Planetarium will feature "Tis The Season" and "Sky Guide" shows throughout the month of December. For more information on the times, call 201-596-6538.

NOW THRU JANUARY 1

MANHATTAN—Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" will appear on the Paramount stage at Madison Square Garden. For ticket info, call 212-465-4501.

DECEMBER 10-FEBRUARY 18

JERSEY CITY—There will be an art exhibition entitled "Shango/Chango: An Institution by Ben Jones" honoring the African Yoruba god, Shango and St. Barbara at the Jersey City Museum from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The reception is free and open to the public. For more info, call 201-547-4379.

DECEMBER 15-28

MILLBURN—The Nutcracker will be performed at the Paper Mill Playhouse at 8 p.m. and 3 p.m. matinees. For more information call 201-376-4343.

DECEMBER 18-MARCH 3

MONTCLAIR—An art exhibition entitled "Emma Amos: Changing the Subject," a portrayal of women and African-Americans throughout the history of art, will be on display at the Montclair Art Museum. For more info, call 201-746-5655.

Send Billboard Calendar events to

City News

144 North Ave.
Plainfield, NJ 07060

ARTZ WEDNESDAY

Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book

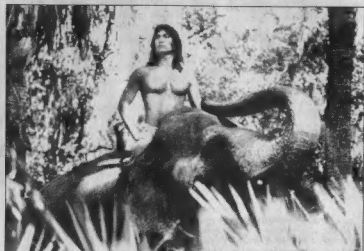
In the classic tradition of Walt Disney Pictures' live-action entertainment for the whole family, and based on Kipling's beloved short stories, comes the bold and sweeping adventures of Mowgli (Jason Scott Lee), a young man raised since childhood by wild animals in the jungles of India. In Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*.

At times, story, shot extensively on locations in India, Mowgli becomes a young man and is eventually drawn from the jungle by his attraction to the beautiful Kitty (Lena Headey), daughter of Major Brydon (Sam Neill), an important English military official. But when Mowgli makes the decision to re-enter civil-

ization, in order to be near Kitty, he embarks on a life-changing adventure beyond his wildest imagination. And when a greedy military officer named Captain Boone (Cary Elwes), who epitomizes untamed savagery, forces Mowgli to reveal the jungle's hidden treasures, the so-called civilized world suddenly becomes the most brutal place Mowgli has ever been.

Only with the help of his loyal animal friends who come to the rescue including Grey Brother, a wolf; Baloo, a bear; and Bagheera, a black panther, can Mowgli survive the perilous ordeal and reunite with Kitty. All of Kipling's memorable characters are featured in this action-

filled updating of the film favorite. For those who treasure Disney's animated classic *The Jungle Book*, this new live-action film promises an equally rewarding experience.



One of Disney's most honored animated classics comes to life on the big screen as Jason Scott Lee stars in *Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book*, a brand new live action feature based on the time-honored stories about Mowgli (Lee), an orphan who is raised by wild animals in the jungles of India. Photos by Frank Conner

Cultural Images...Sweet Potato Pie

MORRISTOWN—ART IN THE ATRIUM presents its third annual exhibition entitled *Cultural Images...Sweet Potato Pie*. This dynamic celebration of African-American heritage will hang for two months, from January 27 through March 31, 1995, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the Atrium Gallery, Morris County Administration and Record Building, Court Street.

An official opening night gala/reception slated for January 27, 1995 will introduce this exuberant collection of African-American art and many of the artists.

This exhibition offers insights into

the visual representation approaches and media of many contemporary artists, as well as promising young artists who are currently defining and shaping the identity of modern African-American art. It is richly endowed with nostalgic memories and dignities of African-American life, past, present and future.

Among the artists whose works are showcased are Alonzo Adams, Romare Bearden, John Biggers, Bradford Brown, Charles A. Caldwell, Leroy Campbell, Elizabeth Catlett, Desiree Cisco, Allan Rohan Crite, Jose Cruz, Frank Frazier, Gladys Barker Grauer, Davis

Hannah, Verna Hart, Richard Haynes, Marian Howard, Lester Johnson, Jacob Lawrence, Toni Parks, Madelyn Reid, William Reid, Larry Walker and Lydia Watson.

Cultural Images...Sweet Potato Pie explores a range of topics which include African-American history and heritage, family unity, the effects of social and political justice and injustice, racial consciousness, music and religion.

Over 150 pieces will be on display. This exciting collection will serve as a vehicle for the continued development of the arts in the community at large.

Jacob Lawrence: The War Series at Whitney Museum of American Art

NEW YORK—Jacob Lawrence: *The War Series* will be presented at the Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris from January 11 to March 24, 1995.

An official opening night gala/reception slated for January 11 to March 24, 1995. Born in 1917, Jacob Lawrence is one of the most prominent African-American artists of this century. His *War Series*, painted in 1946 and 1947, and purchased by the Whitney Museum in 1951, chronicles his experience in the United States Coast Guard from 1943 to 1945. Concurrently, Lawrence's *Migration Series* will be

shown at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, from January 12 to April 11, 1995.

A narrative painter whose work has spanned more than five decades, Lawrence has devoted his career to exploring diverse aspects of the African-American experience.

Through abstract organization, Lawrence depicts an emotional reaction to an event of daily life in war. The series does not document specific battles nor does it glorify war and heroism, rather, the artist has syn-

thesized the experience of war into remembered images and particular experiences.

Jacob Lawrence has had three major traveling retrospectives of his work, 1960, 1974 and again in 1986. In 1983, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the highest honor in the Humanities in the United States.

Over the Years, 300 Stars Have Helped Us Raise Money For the United Negro College Fund. This Year You Can be the Star.

Big names. Top talent. All the hottest stars have come out, not just to entertain, but to help the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" raise over \$100 million for the United Negro College Fund.

For over 50 years, UNCF has been the chief financial support for their 41 member colleges & universities. This year, you can help too.

★ **Enjoy the Show and The Stars.** Tune in and catch all the stars on the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" in January.

Check your local TV schedule for date and time.

★ **Be a Star—Make a Pledge.** Call your local UNCF office and volunteer to answer phones during the show. Even better, make a call and make a pledge.

★ **Help Make New Stars.** Over 250,000 deserving young men and women have received a quality education thanks to UNCF, the "Parade of Stars" and you. Together we can make a lot more dreams come true.



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Walt Disney Pictures presents
**RUDYARD KIPLING'S
THE JUNGLE BOOK**

WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS "RUDYARD KIPLING'S THE JUNGLE BOOK" A SHARAD PATEL Production Screenplay by EDWARD S. FELDMAN
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Produced by SHARAD PATEL MARK DAMON LAWRENCE MORTORFF Edited by THE JUNGLE BOOK BY RUDYARD KIPLING
Directed by RONALD YANOVER & MARK D. GELDMAN Cast by STEPHEN SOMMERS RONALD YANOVER & MARK D. GELDMAN
Executive Producers EDWARD S. FELDMAN RAJU PATEL Producers STEPHEN SOMMERS

OPENS CHRISTMAS DAY

Business Calendar

BUSINESS EXCHANGE

Black travel and tourism—where does your money go?

by William Reed

Everybody and his brother are always talking about the \$300+ billion that black America gets, and spends, each year without getting positive economic benefits, or respect, in return. But, do you know where these dollars go and how can

we individually, and collectively, get more bang for these big bucks? Did you know that each year African Americans spend over \$30 billion in this economy on our conventions, conferences, family reunions and travel? We spend more annually in the tourism market than many countries around the planet generate in their economies, but the question we should be asking

each other, and ourselves, is "What are we getting, or gaining back into our community, for these huge sums of money?"

Blacks, and their bucks, are taken for granted, and easily taken in, by hotels, convention and visitors bureaus, travel agents and other hospitality entities in much the same way we get our pockets picked in other consumer segments of the American economy. Isn't

it time to stand up for, and demand better, in American society in general, and this market segment in particular? Up to now, emmentisms such as FAM tours, complimentary suites, a good bottle of Jack Daniels, Chives Regal, or a case of Snapple, is all it took to get the people heading up the black convention/convention committee or family reunion project, to sign on the dotted line for their event to be held at a certain hotel, city or convention facility. Luckily more black travel agents and conference planners are now asking the prospective hospitality entity relevant black economic-related questions such as, "How many blacks work in your facility and/or industry?" And, "How many black caterers, tour operators and transportation facilities owners do you contract with?"

Since the days of civil rights open accommodation laws, for black travelers the problem of the current day is not being able to check into a hotel, but that of having the means for checking out. Black convention business means "Heads in beds" for hoteliers. It increases the room tax revenue for local governments, as well as produces a positive economic impact for surrounding businesses.

Three billions dollars is a significant contribution to the nation's economy. Hotels, and their city governments, are happy to see tens of thousands of blacks from the Urban League, National Baptist Convention and major societies and fraternities come to their location.

Statistics show that African Americans traditionally spend more than their white counterparts during out-of-state travel. This means that "Big Bucks" are going into the coffers of the chosen facility and city. And it means that if we have any voice in the overall growth for the black conventioners should be gauging to see how much gets into the hands of African Americans in that locale.

The ideal capitalistic solution for blacks would be for the Delta, Q, Alpha and Urban Leagues to come together and start to build black-owned hotels and convention centers. But while our organizations lead us "Fixin' to get ready" to start our own ventures, a positive move for the rest of us is to use

information and resources from blacks already in the industry. In planning our family, church or organization's travel and tours the first thing to do is use a black travel agent for bookings.

We should utilize the services of the other blacks that are also in the industry. It would be beneficial for collective financial and social viewpoint to become involved blacks who are working for the local convention and visitors bureau and with groups such as the African American Travel and Tourism Association and National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners.

If meeting planners sought out those blacks on hotel and convention bureaus staffs, everybody involved would benefit in fun, cultural uplift and more money in the pockets of more blacks. People concerned with travel and where their tourism bucks can go should also subscribe to Black Meetings and Tourism, a magazine published in Winnetka, CA.

We should stop being so open-handed with our money and trying to be a part of the "mainstream." To change our image and understanding of the race and its culture, tourism and travel in search of African-American history is also something positive that can be done with your vacation time and money.

A book called *African American Historic Places* is available and includes some 800 places in 42 states and territories that have played major roles in black American history. Many of the properties include tell grass-roots stories of perseverance and triumph, and others provide grand tales of black's historic deeds and great successes.

It includes places such as the Moulton Rouge hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, which billed itself as "the nation's first major inter-racial hotel" because it provided accommodations for blacks who were denied access to other hotels, dining areas and casinos.

The publication, available from the National Trust for Historic Preservation includes articles, illustrations and achievements of the black experience in America. Information on the 623-page book is available from Shante Evans at 202-673-4057.

Federal government contracts to NJ minority firms increases under SBA program in '94

NEWARK—For the fourth consecutive year the number of federal government contracts awarded to New Jersey minority small businesses have increased under the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 8(a) Program.

Federal government contracts to firms owned by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals under the SBA 8(a) program total 200 contracts for \$122 million in New Jersey during 1994. According to Frances A. Marrero, SBA district director, "increasing the number of contracts to small disadvantaged firms is quite an accomplishment. Especially when a number of the federal agencies have reduced their budgets over the last couple of years."

Since 1968, the SBA has been

authorized by Congress to enter into contracts with other federal agencies for goods and services. The SBA then subcontracts the actual performance of this work to small businesses owned by socially and economically disadvantaged firms.

Socially disadvantaged individuals are those who have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice, or cultural bias because of their identification as members of certain groups: African Americans, Native Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Pacific Americans and Subcontinent Asian Americans have been designated socially disadvantaged.

The 8(a) Program has a history of helping disadvantaged small business persons who have faced un-

usual difficulties in gaining access to the private marketplace. The objective of the program is to assist eligible firms to become independently competitive," Marrero said.

"Over the past four years we have seen a significant increase in the amount of New Jersey firms that have benefited from SBA's 8(a) Program," said Marrero. "We want this trend to continue and encourage small construction, service and manufacturing firms owned by socially and economically disadvantaged persons to participate in the 8(a) Program."

In an effort to encourage additional New Jersey companies to apply for 8(a) certification, the SBA has scheduled seminars that will address 8(a) Program eligibility, criteria and application preparation. The seminars will be conducted on Thursday, January 19th, 1995 and Thursday February 16th, 1995 in room 204/205 of the Federal Building at 970 Broad St., Newark, New Jersey from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

To be eligible for the 8(a) program, a small business must be at least 51 percent owned, controlled and daily operated by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged person(s). The firm must also be in business at least two years.

Brokers and packagers are ineligible to participate in the 8(a) program. For more information about the 8(a) program, or eligibility requirements, call Richard Zilg, at 201-645-2531.

Those interested in attending the 8(a) Application Workshop should contact Ms. Jewell Pickett of the SBA at 201-645-2530/3831.

Clergy demands ouster

(Continued from page 1)

noted that two years ago, Cardinal attempted to circumvent the New Jersey Court's ruling in *Abbott v. Burke*, a ruling which held that urban schools in the state were shortchanged in public funding, by proposing that the state constitution be amended to delete the "thorough and efficient" clause for public education.

"It was the senator's intention to undermine efforts to address inequities in public school finance. This would no doubt have had a deleterious impact upon black children in urban school districts," he said.

Also in attendance were the Rev. Calvin McKinley, vice president of the General Baptist Convention of New Jersey, representing 35 state churches; Elaine Harrington, president of the state conference of the NAACP; a representative of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and members of the United Clergy.

The South Jersey Clergy Charitable Society was stated in a prepared statement as joining the black clergy in their efforts to have Cardinal ousted. The group is reportedly angry at the senator's refusal to release a bill that would allow chiropractors to be represented in Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs). No representative from the group was at the conference, however, Rev. Jackson said the society was in support of their efforts.

"I have no hatred for the black community," Cardinal said in a phone interview, adding, "the memo was taken out of context."

He stated that the ministers had the "wrong slant on things" and that the

memo was inclusive of all religious groups.

State Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco (R-Union) gave a resounding "no" to the churchmen's request when questioned by reporters. He stressed that Cardinal would remain as chairman of the commerce committee.

However, the ministers, without giving any specifics, vowed to take their cause to the "next level."

"The sleeping giant is awake, alive and ready to take action," the Rev. Raiford Wheeler, pastor of the Park Avenue Christian Church and member of the United Clergy, said.

In addition to denouncing Cardinal, the group also took issue with New Jersey Transit who continued to advertise on the Bob Grant Show. The clergy had been pressuring local and national advertisers to remove their ads from the show.

Rick Remington, a spokesperson for NJ Transit, said that the agency had decided to stop advertising on the show as of Dec. 3 after its year contract ended with WABC. "We will not continue on the Bob Grant show," he stressed.

Rev. Jackson also announced that in an effort to promote diversity, he and his colleagues will be asking religious leaders across the state to join them in a pulpits-for-peace during the upcoming Martin Luther King celebration. They will attempt to preach in other churches and temples to address issues of race and tolerance in efforts to bring the state together.

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Camden	33,120	Morris	39,520
Essex	39,520	Ocean	36,320
Gloucester	33,120	Passaic	42,160
Hudson	28,240	Union	39,520
Warren	\$30,880		

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Happy Holidays

From the Staff of City News



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